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13 October 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Medical Staff Career Service Board

FROM: Medical Technicians and Administrative Panel

SUBJECT: Length of Overseas Tours of Duty (MED. TECH.)

1. For your information attached please find the results of a study conducted by the Medical Technicians and Administrative Panel pertaining to length of overseas tours of duty.

2. Additional copies of this study are attached in the event you desire distribution to members of the Medical Staff Career Service Board.

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Chairman, Medical  
Technicians and  
Administrative Panel

Attachment as stated above

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10 October 1958

STUDY FOR: Chairman, Medical Staff Career Service Board  
FROM: Medical Technicians and Administrative Panel  
SUBJECT: Length of Overseas Tours of Duty

1. On 2 October 1958, the Chairman of the Medical Technicians and Administrative Panel received a verbal request to submit a written report reflecting the opinion of the Panel relating to the length of overseas tours of duty. This request was relayed to the Panel by the Chief, Support Division, Medical Staff on behalf of the Chairman, Medical Staff Career Service Board.

2. Inasmuch as the policies and procedures relating to length of overseas tours of duty constitute a vital part of the Medical Staff Career Program, it was the unanimous opinion of the Panel, that in order to present a sound and realistic recommendation, a canvass of all Headquarters Medical Staff technical and administrative personnel was indicated.

3. Such a canvass was conducted after first instructing the individual to voice his opinion following careful consideration of:

(a) No change in the present length of overseas tours of duty.

(b) Increase the present overseas tours of duty to a mandatory three-year tour.

(c) Increase the present overseas tours of duty to a mandatory four-year tour with a "break" at the end of the first two years for home leave and return to Station and/or Base.

(d) Any realistic proposal concerning length of overseas tours of duty whereby the individual might convey to the Panel valuable ideas or proposals that the Panel may have overlooked.

4. The individual was further instructed to consider a proposal whereby that, at the end of the fifteenth month of his overseas tour, an interview would be conducted between the employee, his supervisor and his Station or Base Chief, at which time a mutual decision would be reached to implement one of the proposals outlined in para. 3a, 3b and 3c above.

5. The results, conclusions and recommendations resulting from this canvass are as follows:

A. RESULTS

25X9A2 1. A review of the Medical Staff Table of Organization revealed that twenty individuals fall into the technical and/or administrative categories presently assigned to Headquarters, and that [REDACTED] individuals in these categories are presently on duty overseas. Only the [REDACTED] medical technical and administrative 25X9 personnel assigned to Headquarters were canvassed.

25X9A2 2. [REDACTED] (70%) canvassed, voiced the opinion that the length of overseas tours of duty should not be increased. This group was unanimous in expressing its desires that requests for extensions of overseas tours of duty be placed on a voluntary rather than a mandatory basis and that the Medical Staff Career Service Board continue to follow a liberal policy in approving the voluntary requests for extensions of overseas tours of duty.

25X9A2 3. [REDACTED] (20%) canvassed, voiced the opinion that the present two-year overseas tour of duty should be lengthened to a mandatory three-year tour of duty.

25X9A2 4. [REDACTED] (5%) canvassed, voiced the opinion that the present two-year overseas tour of duty should not be lengthened and that requests for extensions should be approved only in rare instances.

25X9A2 5. [REDACTED] (5%) canvassed had no opinion on this subject.

B. CONCLUSIONS

1. The Panel concludes that the majority of the medical technical and administrative personnel canvassed desires that:

a The present length of tours of overseas duty not be increased.

b Any implemented program of extensions of any overseas tours of duty be on a voluntary rather than on a mandatory basis.

c That the Medical Staff Career Service Board continue to follow a liberal policy on the approval of voluntary extensions of overseas tours of duty.

25X9 2. Due to inability of the Panel to communicate with personnel overseas the conclusions presented in this study reflect only the opinions of the [REDACTED] presently assigned to Headquarters. The Panel is cognizant that due to lack of communications the opinion of approximately 50% of the total number of medical technical and administrative personnel has been voiced within the scope of this study. However it is the sincere belief of this Panel that the results are representative of the opinions of all medical technical and administrative personnel inasmuch as the majority of Headquarters personnel canvassed have had previous experience overseas with the Agency.

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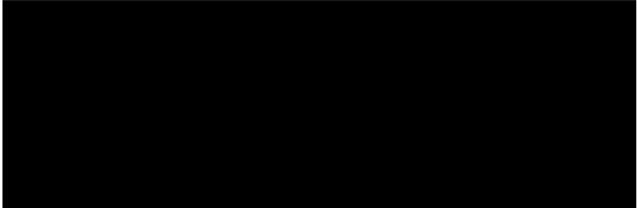
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3. The Panel concludes that the reasons and/or factors influencing the opinions of the medical technical and administrative personnel stated above are too numerous and diversified to enumerate in this report. However, the Panel wishes to express its availability for detailed discussions of the reasons and/or factors influencing the above results, if the Medical Staff Career Service Board feels that such discussions are indicated.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In view of the above results and conclusions, the Panel respectfully recommends that the present length of overseas tours of duty not be increased; that requests for extensions of overseas tours of duty be placed on a voluntary rather than a mandatory basis; and that the Medical Staff Career Service Board continue to follow a liberal policy of approving voluntary requests for extensions of overseas tours of duty.

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Chairman

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